



Application No. 10/728,905
Attorney Docket No. 032080

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.111
Amendment filed: October 31, 2006

REMARKS

Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 7-11, 14, 15, and 20-23 will be pending in the above-identified application.

As discussed below, claims 1-6, 12, 13, 16-19, 24, and 25 are canceled and claims 7, 10, 20, and 22 are amended. No new matter has been entered. It is respectfully submitted that this Amendment is fully responsive to the Office Action dated September 28, 2006.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's acknowledgement that claims 7-11, 14, 15, and 20-23 are allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any of the intervening claims. Therefore, to expedite prosecution and clarify the subject matter of the present invention, Applicants hereby rewrite claims 7, 10, 20, and 22 in independent form. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the anticipation rejection of claims 1-6, 12, 13, 16-19, 24, and 26 (which is now moot) and allow the remaining pending claims.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicants submit that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

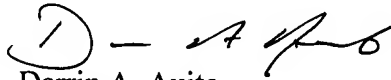
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If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D - A Auito', is positioned above the printed name.

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